



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***GFOA Awards Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship***

(Chicago, Illinois – April 22, 2016) The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has announced the recipients of its 2016 scholarships. GFOA’s mission is to enhance and promote the professional management of governments. Among the ways GFOA accomplishes its mission is through education, training, and leadership.

The recipients of the four awards for the ***Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship*** are **Kaye M. Matucheski, Shonna Neary, Scott Smith, and Danielle Denise Young**. Each will receive **\$8,000**.

- **Kaye M. Matucheski** will graduate in May 2016 with a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin in Oshkosh. She is currently the Clerk-Treasurer for the City of Antigo, Wisconsin, a position she has held for over nineteen years. Kaye’s responsibilities include preparing the budget and annual reports, and completing the requirements for debt issuances. She also oversees the payroll, human resources, insurance, and utility billing functions for the City of Antigo, as well as serving as Vice President for the Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company. Kaye’s goal is to explore other employment opportunities with the City of Antigo or an administrative and finance position with another municipality.
- **Shonna Neary** will graduate in May 2019 with a Master in Business Administration from Lakeland College in Madison Wisconsin. She has been employed by Columbia County in Portage, Wisconsin, for sixteen years, currently as an Accounting Supervisor/Project Manager. In her current position, Shonna supervises two employees in

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the areas of grants, collections, accounts payable, budget, and audit accounting. She is responsible for the County's capital assets, including additions, disposals, depreciation and year-end reporting, and is a project manager for the computer system. Previously, she held other positions as Accounting Supervisor, Staff Accountant, and Accounting Assistant with the County. Shonna's career goal is to be a Comptroller or Co-Comptroller for Columbia County or another governmental entity.

- **Scott Smith** will graduate in August 2016 with a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Denver, Daniels College of Business, in Denver, Colorado. Scott is currently the Director of Budget for the Douglas County School District in Castle Rock, Colorado. In that capacity, he is responsible for the development, monitoring, and alignment of the District's \$700 million appropriated budget in accordance with the school district's long-term financial and strategic plans. Scott developed new financial forecasting models to manage the District's use of fund balance and ensure its long-term financial stability. Scott's ultimate goal is to be the Chief Financial Officer for a K-12 school district.
- **Danielle Denise Young** will graduate in May 2016 with a Master's in Public Administration degree from Wichita State University, Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs, in Wichita, Kansas. She is currently the City Clerk for the City of Cheney, Kansas. Her responsibilities include managing the payroll, benefits, accounts payable, accounts receivable, accounting, and utility billing functions for the City. Danielle also previously served as a Cheney City Council member and a Cheney Planning Commission member. Her goals include pursuing job opportunities in finance and economic development within a larger municipality, with the ultimate goal of becoming a City Manager.

GFOA's *Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship* is available for award to one or more employees of a state or local government enrolled in part-time graduate study preparing for a career in state and local government finance. The winners of the scholarship are invited to attend GFOA's annual conference, where the awards will be presented. This scholarship is funded by the Government Finance Officers Association Scholarship Reserve.

**The eligibility requirements for the award include:**

- Employed at least two years by one or more state or local governments.
- Currently a part-time student in a graduate program in public administration, governmental accounting, finance, economics, or business administration preparing for a

(more)

Page 3

*GFOA Press Release – Government Finance Professional Development Scholarship  
April 22, 2016*

career in state and local government finance; student must expect to be enrolled in the Spring 2016 semester (including Spring 2016 graduates).

- Baccalaureate degree or its equivalent.
- Citizen or permanent resident of the United States or Canada.
- Recommendation by academic advisor or dean of the graduate program.
- Recommendation by employer.
- Student has not been a past winner of a scholarship program administered by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

For more information about GFOA's scholarships, please contact:

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*Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing the needs of nearly 18,500 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial level-government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy and management. The association is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with offices in Washington, D.C.*